



COMMUNITY CONSERVATION OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Tuesday, 15 October 2019

16:00 - 17:00

IUCN Pavilion - #NatureForAll

Description:

The side event is organized by the UNDP-GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP) to present different actors and perspectives of community conservation from self-management, community engagement and land management that capture all the dimensions that occur in the territory: culture, people, institutions, land, customs, and knowledge.



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

PANELISTS:

Mr. Alberto Vázquez
Presidente, Asociación
de Comunidades
Indígenas de Itapúa
(ACIDI) PARAGUAY

Mr. Arley Garcia
Líder, Asociación de
Trabajadores
Campesinos Del Tolima
COLOMBIA

Ms. Jessie Young
Founder & President,
Community Baboon
Sanctuary Women's
Conservation Group
BELIZE

Mr. Rodemiro Lantán
López
Presidente, Mesa de
Tierras Comunales de
GUATEMALA

**AUDIENCE
INTERACTIVE
EXERCISE**
Ana Maria Varea, PPD
Ecuador

MODERATOR:
Ana Beatriz Barona,
PPD Colombia

Brief biography of the panelists

(Mr.) Alberto Vázquez, President of the Association of Indigenous Communities of Itapúa (ACIDI), a member organization of the Federation for the Self-Determination of Indigenous Peoples (FAPI) in Paraguay. Alberto is an indigenous leader of the Mbya Guaraní People, one of the 19 indigenous peoples living in Paraguay. He has an inspiring trajectory as a leader in his management and fight for the claim of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. ACIDI promotes one of the most extensive claims in the Eastern Region (63,500 hectares) in Paraguay -- the Tekoha Guasu of the Mbya Guaraní people. A large part this territory coincides with San Rafael Park and make up a rich and diverse ecosystem. The park, however, is not under the public domain but distributed among a large number of private owners. Within these lands, approximately 10 communities hold individual titles of an estimated 13,000 hectares of land.

(Mr.) Arley García, Association of Rural Workers of Tolima - Astracatol. Arley is a leader with extensive experience in the peasant community organizational process. This Association leads the consortium in the Tolima Peasant Reserve Zone in the municipality of Planadas, comprising of a 57,983-hectare Andean forest in a post-conflict zone. The peasant conservation strategy is anchored in a participatory zoning process and environmental planning that is realized through collective meetings, characterization tours and delimitation routes of the territory. Led by the peasant environmental guard, the management and conservation of the territory, occupied 3,000 peasant families, is based on a collective agreement.

(Ms.) Jessie Young, Founder and President of the Community Baboon Sanctuary Women`s Conservation Group in Bermudian Landing Village, Belize. In 2017, CBSWCG received the 2019 UN Equator Initiative Prize for their outstanding voluntary work protecting the environment, conserving habitats as corridors for wildlife to roam freely. CBSWCG supports the conservation of black howler monkeys in the 6,000-hectare Community Baboon Sanctuary. Ms. Young is the proud recipient of the 2019 James A. Waight Award recognizing her outstanding contribution to conservation and community development in the Belize River Valley. She played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Community Baboon Sanctuary, Belize`s first Natural History Museum, and the CBS Women`s Conservation Group. Ms. Young continues her work as a community leader with indigenous innovative nature-based solutions towards sustainable development.

(Mr.) Rodemiro Lantán López, of the Xinka and Mestiza ethnic group, President of the Mesa de Tierras Comunes de Guatemala, and General Coordinator of the Coordinating Association of associations and communities for integral development of the Ch`orti` Region (COMUNDICH). COMUNDICH is an indigenous organization that is constituted within the framework of the Peace Agreements, with the purpose of working for the recognition, respect and exercise of human rights and rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Its main objectives are: (i) to promote the necessary actions to achieve economic, social and cultural development of the Ch`orti` people; (ii) develop organizational strengthening processes of associations, indigenous communities, communal authorities/governments and other collective forms of organization of the Ch`orti` People; (iii) strengthen the fight for respect for the specific rights of the Ch'orti` Maya People, especially with regard to language, forms of social organization, land and natural resources, customs and traditional practices; (iv) represent the Ch'orti` Maya People in national and international spaces related to indigenous and related issues; (v) promote the productive self-management of Ch'orti` communal associations and governments; and (vi) recover the ancestral, historical and registry territories of the Ch'orti` indigenous communities and influence the government policies at the departmental and national municipal level.